pleased to state:

(a) whether raids were conducted on some petrol pumps in Varodara, Surat, Bharuch and Panchmahai districts in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the outcome of the raids, and

(c) the number of petrol pumps riaded during each of the last thret years and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Tht information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Steps to increase the production of kerosene

1226. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Villi the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the average production of Kero sene in the country at present;

(b) whether the kerosene produced at present is adequate to meet the requirements of the country;

(c) if not, the steps being taken to increase the production; and

(d) the alternative steps taken to meet the requirement of Kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY 0*[1] PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) As against the consumption of about 8.69 MMT during 1993-94 the indigenous production was about 5.27 MMT.

(c) and (d) The deficit is met [b]y import. Also, Government have dec-canalised the import of kerosene to be sold under parallel marketing scheme. The Government have also taken action to increase refining capacity in the country increase the availability of petroleum products inclusive of kerosene.

Issuance of industrial gas connections in Uttar Pradesh

1227. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial pipe, line Natural Gas connections issued by Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the criteria adopted by Government for issuing such gas connections; and

(c) the number of applications received from Uttar Pradesh for such new connections during 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Sixteen such connections were given by Gas Authority of India Ltd.

(b) Allocations of natural gas are based generally on the imputed values with preference being given to the power, fertilizer and steel sectors.

(c) No r.ew applications are being entertained as the available gas is fully allocated.

Reducing import of trade and petroleum products

123S. SHRI SAP ADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister ai PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to reduce the imnort ef crude and petroleum products;

(b) gt fc©i to what extent the import bill reduced during the last three years (year-wise):

(c) the target set f[or] import during 1094.95; and

(d) the rfetailfs thereof*